
HOUSE BILL 2216

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By Representatives Appleton, Sells, Simpson, Takko, Wallace, Ormsby,
Conway and Strow

Read first time 02/13/2007. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring the appointment of nonvoting labor
2 members to public transportation governing bodies; amending RCW
3 35.58.270, 36.57.030, and 36.57A.050; and adding a new section to
4 chapter 35.21 RCW.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 35.58.270 and 1993 c 240 s 6 are each amended to read
7 as follows:

8 If a metropolitan municipal corporation shall be authorized to
9 perform the function of metropolitan transportation with a commission
10 form of management, a metropolitan transit commission shall be formed
11 prior to the effective date of the assumption of such function. Except
12 as provided in this section, the metropolitan transit commission shall
13 exercise all powers of the metropolitan municipal corporation with
14 respect to metropolitan transportation facilities, including but not
15 limited to the power to construct, acquire, maintain, operate, extend,
16 alter, repair, control and manage a local public transportation system
17 within and without the metropolitan area, to establish new passenger
18 transportation services and to alter, curtail, or abolish any services
19 as the commission may deem desirable and to fix tolls and fares.

1 The comprehensive plan for public transportation service and any
2 amendments thereof shall be adopted by the metropolitan council and the
3 metropolitan transit commission shall provide transportation facilities
4 and service consistent with such plan. The metropolitan transit
5 commission shall authorize expenditures for transportation purposes
6 within the budget adopted by the metropolitan council. Tolls and fares
7 may be fixed or altered by the commission only after approval thereof
8 by the metropolitan council. Bonds of the metropolitan municipal
9 corporation for public transportation purposes shall be issued by the
10 metropolitan council as provided in this chapter.

11 The metropolitan transit commission shall consist of seven voting
12 members. Six of such members shall be appointed by the metropolitan
13 council and the seventh member shall be the ((~~chairman~~)) chair of the
14 metropolitan council who shall be ex officio the ((~~chairman~~)) chair of
15 the metropolitan transit commission. Three of the six appointed
16 members of the commission shall be residents of the central city and
17 three shall be residents of the metropolitan area outside of the
18 central city. The three central city members of the first metropolitan
19 transit commission shall be selected from the existing transit
20 commission of the central city, if there be a transit commission in
21 such city. The terms of first appointees shall be for one, two, three,
22 four, five and six years, respectively. Thereafter, commissioners
23 shall serve for a term of four years. Compensation of transit
24 commissioners shall be determined by the metropolitan council.

25 There shall also be one nonvoting member of the metropolitan
26 transit commission. The nonvoting member shall be recommended by the
27 labor organization representing the majority of the public
28 transportation employees within the local public transportation system.
29 The nonvoting member shall be appointed for a term of four years. The
30 commission chair may exclude the nonvoting member from attending any
31 portion of a meeting of the commission or of any committee held for the
32 purpose of discussing negotiations with labor organizations.

33 The requirement to create a metropolitan transit commission shall
34 not apply to a county that has assumed the rights, powers, functions,
35 and obligations of the metropolitan municipal corporation under chapter
36 36.56 RCW.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 36.57.030 and 1974 ex.s. c 167 s 3 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 Every county which undertakes the transportation function pursuant
4 to RCW 36.57.020 shall create by resolution of the county legislative
5 body a county transportation authority which shall be composed as
6 follows:

7 (1) The elected officials of the county legislative body, not to
8 exceed three such elected officials;

9 (2) The mayor of the most populous city within the county;

10 (3) The mayor of a city with a population less than five thousand,
11 to be selected by the mayors of all such cities within the county;

12 (4) The mayor of a city with a population greater than five
13 thousand, excluding the most populous city, to be selected by the
14 mayors of all such cities within the county: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That
15 if there is no city with a population greater than five thousand,
16 excluding the most populous city, then the sixth member who shall be an
17 elected official, shall be selected by the other two mayors selected
18 pursuant to subsections (2) and (3) of this section;

19 (5) An individual recommended by the labor organization
20 representing the majority of the public transportation employees within
21 the county transportation authority. The individual shall serve as a
22 nonvoting member of the county transportation authority. The chair of
23 the county transportation authority may exclude the nonvoting member
24 from attending any portion of a meeting of the authority or of any
25 committee held for the purpose of discussing negotiations with labor
26 organizations.

27 The members of the authority shall be selected within sixty days
28 after the date of the resolution creating such authority.

29 Any member of the authority who is a mayor or an elected official
30 selected pursuant to subsection (4) (~~above~~) of this section and whose
31 office is not a full-time position shall receive one hundred dollars
32 for each day attending official meetings of the authority.

33 **Sec. 3.** RCW 36.57A.050 and 1998 c 121 s 15 are each amended to
34 read as follows:

35 Within sixty days of the establishment of the boundaries of the
36 public transportation benefit area the members of the county
37 legislative authority and the elected representative of each city

1 within the area shall provide for the selection of the governing body
2 of such area, the public transportation benefit area authority, which
3 shall consist of elected officials selected by and serving at the
4 pleasure of the governing bodies of component cities within the area
5 and the county legislative authority of each county within the area.
6 If at the time a public transportation benefit area authority assumes
7 the public transportation functions previously provided under the
8 Interlocal Cooperation Act (chapter 39.34 RCW) there are citizen
9 positions on the governing board of the transit system, those positions
10 may be retained as positions on the governing board of the public
11 transportation benefit area authority.

12 Within such sixty-day period, any city may by resolution of its
13 legislative body withdraw from participation in the public
14 transportation benefit area. The county legislative authority and each
15 city remaining in the public transportation benefit area may disapprove
16 and prevent the establishment of any governing body of a public
17 transportation benefit area if the composition thereof does not meet
18 its approval.

19 In no case shall the governing body of a single county public
20 transportation benefit area be greater than (~~nine~~) ten members and in
21 the case of a multicounty area, (~~fifteen~~) sixteen members. Those
22 cities within the transportation benefit area and excluded from direct
23 membership on the authority are hereby authorized to designate a member
24 of the authority who shall be entitled to represent the interests of
25 such city which is excluded from direct membership on the authority.
26 The legislative body of such city shall notify the authority as to the
27 determination of its authorized representative on the authority.

28 There shall also be one nonvoting member of the public
29 transportation benefit area authority. The nonvoting member shall be
30 recommended by the labor organization representing the majority of the
31 public transportation employees within the local public transportation
32 system. The chair of the authority may exclude the nonvoting member
33 from attending any portion of a meeting of the authority or of any
34 committee held for the purpose of discussing negotiations with labor
35 organizations.

36 Each member of the authority is eligible to be reimbursed for
37 travel expenses in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060 and to
38 receive compensation, as set by the authority, in an amount not to

1 exceed forty-four dollars for each day during which the member attends
2 official meetings of the authority or performs prescribed duties
3 approved by the chairman of the authority. Except that the authority
4 may, by resolution, increase the payment of per diem compensation to
5 each member from forty-four dollars up to seventy dollars per day or
6 portion of a day for attendance at board meetings and for performance
7 of other services on behalf of the authority. In no event may a member
8 be compensated in any year for more than seventy-five days, except the
9 chairman who may be paid compensation for not more than one hundred
10 days: PROVIDED, That compensation shall not be paid to an elected
11 official or employee of federal, state, or local government who is
12 receiving regular full-time compensation from such government for
13 attending meetings and performing prescribed duties of the authority.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 35.21 RCW
15 to read as follows:

16 Any county performing the public transportation function as
17 authorized by RCW 36.57.100 and 36.57.110 or any public transportation
18 system that is not governed: By a metropolitan municipal corporation
19 as authorized by RCW 35.58.270; by a county performing the public
20 transportation function as authorized by RCW 36.57.100 and 36.57.110;
21 by a county transportation authority under chapter 36.57 RCW; or by any
22 public transportation benefit area established under chapter 36.57A
23 RCW, must appoint a nonvoting member to its public transportation
24 governing body, if applicable.

25 The nonvoting member shall be recommended by the labor organization
26 representing the majority of the public transportation employees within
27 the local public transportation system. The chair of the governing
28 body may exclude the nonvoting member from attending any portion of a
29 meeting of the governing body or of any committee held for the purpose
30 of discussing negotiations with labor organizations.

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